

The

Auto
\$mart



Guide For Women

Our love affair with the car continues. Not only are Canadian women buying more cars and driving more, we're increasingly involved in car purchase and maintenance decisions. It's more important than ever to be aware of the impact our cars have on the environment. This Guide can help us understand how to buy, drive and maintain our cars with the environment in mind – and save money too!

Welcome to Auto\$mart!

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Welcome to Auto\$mart!

Join The Auto\$mart Movement

We're all responsible for what our cars can do to the environment. And we can all play a part in the solution by joining the Auto\$mart movement.

Follow any of the tips and guidelines in this handbook and you'll help the environment and save money.

For quick reference keep this Auto\$mart guide within easy reach at home or in your car. Use it regularly.

It's important to be Auto\$mart. When you make the effort, it pays healthy dividends.

Your Car and The Environment

The facts...

Canada has one of the highest ratios of car ownership in the world, approaching one vehicle for every two Canadians. In 1992, there were 13.3 million cars in Canada. Almost all Canadians of legal driving age have a driver's license. It's no surprise that transportation consumes 70% of our petroleum products.

All new cars, large and small, must meet the same exhaust emission standards for hydrocarbon (HC), carbon monoxide (CO) and nitrogen oxides (NO_x). The only polluting gas not regulated by standards is carbon dioxide (CO₂), the principal global warming gas.

Production of this gas is directly related to how much fuel we use. For every litre of gasoline consumed by an automobile, about 2.5 kilograms of CO₂ are released into the atmosphere. That adds up to four tonnes of carbon dioxide annually for a typical commuter - more than twice the weight of your car!

While in recent years engine emissions and fuel consumption per vehicle have been dramatically reduced, these technological improvements have been offset by other factors.

While our cars are more fuel efficient and pollute less than ever before, stricter standards and advanced technology are simply not enough. Being Auto\$mart will give us and our environment added breathing room.

The Canada Year Book 1994 reported that emissions of CO₂ per vehicle have decreased. Overall, however, emissions are rising because there are more cars on the road, and we're travelling farther and more often.

The social costs of vehicle emissions are huge. They range from health problems to environmental degradation and global warming. Wildlife and plant life suffer damaging consequences as do our buildings and structures.

What can we do?

How much fuel we use is related to how efficient our cars are, and how we drive and maintain them.

Buy Auto\$mart. Consider buying the most fuel-efficient car relative to your needs. And when you can, leave your car behind (use public transportation, walk, bike). You'll really be moving in the right direction.

Remember, every litre of gas you save stops 2.5 kg of CO₂ from being pumped into the air.

Drive Auto\$mart. Be a conscientious driver. Driving the speed limit and using other Auto\$mart driving techniques can reduce fuel consumption and emissions.

Stay Auto\$mart. Maintain your vehicle regularly so it operates at optimum efficiency. Poorly maintained cars, and those manufactured prior to the introduction of stringent emission standards, pollute more.

The use of alternative fuels such as natural gas, propane and alcohol fuels like methanol will produce fewer pollutants. Ethanol blends are also widely available and can be used by any gasoline vehicle.

Making good decisions. That's really all it takes to be Auto\$mart.

Steps You Can Take

The single biggest factor in significantly reducing emissions from the cars we drive is our commitment to being Auto\$mart. The more we do to reduce fuel consumption, the less pollution enters our atmosphere. Not to mention the money we save.

Minimize the use of your car. Ride a bike. Car pool. Walk. Use public transportation.



Auto Economics

While there is a price to pay for owning a car, it needn't be a draining experience. Thinking Auto\$mart will put you in the driver's seat.

Buy Auto\$mart.

Buying a car is one of the most important financial decisions you can make. With so many choices and options, factoring Auto\$mart into your selection can make the process easier.

Think in terms of your everyday needs. Consider the most fuel-efficient vehicle in the size and type you need.

Before you buy, call the Auto\$mart hotline at 1-800-387-2000 for your copy of *The Fuel Consumption Guide*. Use it to compare fuel consumption ratings of models you are considering. A car that gets excellent fuel economy is the first step toward saving money.

Driving sensibly saves.

Driving sensibly will save fuel and decrease your costs even more. Here are some tips to remember:

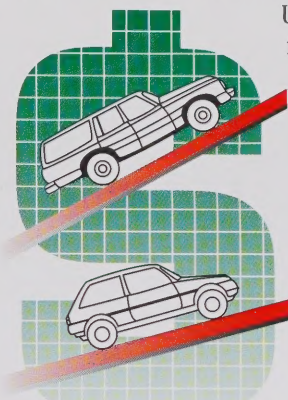
- Reducing your speed greatly enhances fuel efficiency.
- Avoid abrupt starts as they guzzle gas.

- Avoid abrupt stops. Extra fuel is consumed regaining momentum.

- Don't idle your car for more than 60 seconds. It takes less fuel to stop and then restart the engine.

- Combining many errands into one trip will shorten the distance you travel. Less distance travelled means less fuel used and less money pumped into the gas tank.

- Don't "rev" the engine. It wastes fuel and causes excessive engine wear.



Dare to care.

At first glance, regular car maintenance seems to be an added expense. Think of it as an Auto\$mart investment.

Changing the oil and oil filter, as specified by the manufacturer, has tremendous impact on the efficiency and life of your car's engine. Check that the oil you use is marked "Energy Conserving II". These oils contain

special additives that can increase fuel economy by 3% or more.

Keep a close eye on your tire pressure by checking it every two weeks with an accurate gauge.

Under-inflated tires wear faster and rob your vehicle of its fuel efficiency.

Have the wheel alignment checked if you have hit a curb or a big pothole. Improper alignment can cause premature tire wear and reduced fuel efficiency.

Check the air filter regularly. A dirty one can increase gasoline consumption by 10%.

Finally, take your vehicle to a reputable mechanic for regular tune-ups. Servicing newer cars requires special tools, equipment and expertise. Don't take chances.

Buy smart. Drive smart. Care smart. When it comes to owning and operating a car, using your Auto\$mart can go a long way.

When buying a new car, consider fuel-efficient alternatives. The smaller the engine, the less fuel it consumes. Reduced consumption means lower operating costs and emissions.

When purchasing, choose options with an eye toward fuel efficiency. Options like a manual transmission, overdrive, block heater and cruise control help to lower fuel consumption.

Consider using alternative fuels such as natural gas, propane and alcohol fuels. They produce lower levels of hydrocarbons, CO and CO₂, and they can save you money.

Combine errands into one trip. Not only will it take less time, it will also shorten the distances travelled and use less fuel.

When possible, do your driving during off-peak periods. The start and stop driving of heavy traffic greatly reduces fuel efficiency and increases emissions.

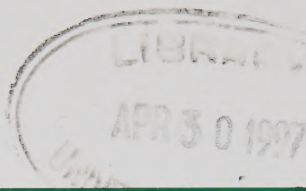
Turn the engine off while you wait. It takes less fuel to restart your car than it does to let it idle for more than one minute.

Don't speed. On average, a vehicle uses about 20% more fuel at 110 km/hour than at 90 km/hour. Reducing your speed lowers emissions and it's money in your pocket.

Keep your vehicle properly tuned and maintained. Without regular maintenance, emissions can be up to ten times higher than normal.

Call Auto\$mart at 1-800-387-2000 for your free *Car Economy Calculator*. Use it to keep a record of your fuel consumption.





THE AUTO\$MART

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QUIZ

Now that you're Auto\$mart, take the quiz and see if you're a whiz! Some questions aren't covered in the booklet – just to make you think a little harder!

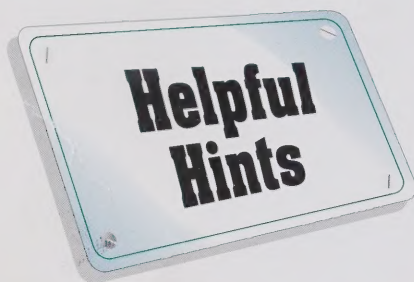
1. Although CO₂ emissions per vehicle have decreased, total CO₂ from vehicle emissions is still rising. **T □ F □**
2. It is mandatory for car manufacturers to inform customers of the fuel efficiency ratings for all new cars. **T □ F □**
3. No matter what model of car you buy, the options you choose can make a difference in its fuel consumption. **T □ F □**
4. *The Fuel Consumption Guide* can help you compare the fuel efficiency of cars you're considering buying. **T □ F □**
5. Making jack rabbit starts doesn't waste

- fuel, and it's a good way to warm up the engine. **T □ F □**
6. Driving fast reduces fuel consumption because you get there faster. **T □ F □**
 7. In winter idle your car for about five minutes before driving away slowly. **T □ F □**
 8. Using the drive-through at a fast food outlet rather than shutting the car off will save fuel. **T □ F □**
 9. Avoid unnecessary braking. Regaining lost momentum uses more fuel. **T □ F □**
 10. The older your car, the less you can do to enhance its fuel efficiency. **T □ F □**
 11. Changing your oil regularly will reduce engine wear. **T □ F □**
 12. When driving in warm weather, using the air-conditioner is more fuel-efficient than the flow-through ventilation system. **T □ F □**

13. An irregularly maintained car will produce emissions up to five times higher than cars that are properly maintained. **T □ F □**
14. Rotating your tires and maintaining proper tire pressure help them last longer. **T □ F □**
15. A dirty air filter can cause a 10% increase in fuel consumption. **T □ F □**

Answers

1. T; 2. F; 3. T; 4. T; 5. F; 6. F; 7. F; 8. F; 9. T; 10. F; 11. T; 12. F; 13. F (10 times higher); 14. T; 15. T



Being Auto\$mart means doing the small things that make a big, positive difference in our environment.

- Use the flow-through ventilation system when the weather is warm. Resist the urge to turn on the air conditioner.
- Avoid abrupt changes in speed. Anticipate traffic and adjust your speed accordingly. The less often you change speeds, the less fuel you use.
- Improper alignment can wear tires prematurely and decrease fuel efficiency. To check your car's alignment, release the steering wheel at an even speed in a flat, empty parking lot. If the car veers to one side, chances are it needs a wheel alignment.

- To maximize operating efficiency, look for oil products marked "Energy Conserving II". They contain additives that can increase fuel economy by 3% or more.
- Keep your tires properly inflated to maximize fuel efficiency. Always check your tires when they're cold using a gauge. Warm tires will give an inaccurate reading because inflation pressure increases as tires heat up during use.
- If you have a portable roof rack, remove it when it is not in use. Leaving it on increases aerodynamic drag resulting in higher fuel consumption.



Take the Auto\$mart pledge.

Join thousands of Canadians in making a cleaner, brighter future for everyone. Commit to the Auto\$mart movement. When we hit the Auto\$mart road together, the environment wins, and so do we.

For more information, please call:
The Auto\$mart Line
1-800-387-2000



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